

[Mr. K. G. Govindan.]

spent upon this bill for the purpose of amalgamating the already existing laws. There will be finally one Hindu law affecting all Hindu communities. The Vellala Act, the Ezhava Act, the Nair Act etc. are the same in fundamentals. There are only changes in details. Now let us amalgamate all these laws so that the Varnava and all other denominations will be brought under the amalgamated Act.

The House adjourned for lunch at 2 p. m. and re-assembled at 3 p. m. with the President in the chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION RE-DEWAN'S TERM OF OFFICE.

PRESIDENT : Order, Order. I have received a Short Notice Question under remarkable circumstances :—

It is from Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.

"Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any foundation for the rumour widely current among the public that the Dewan's term of office has already expired or is going to expire shortly"?

I should normally have ruled this question out of order. But from the point of view of administrative convenience it is as well to give the quietus to such kind of talk, and I am answering the question. Evidently the trouble started in the Accountant-General's Office where some enterprising clerk, at the end of five years from a notification issued in 1938, is reported to have raised the query. as to whether I should or can draw my pay. Neither the query nor its solution is now relevant. I do not see why it should go out. There is a great deal of this kind of speculation always going on in the State and it is wise to ignore it normally but the actual position is very simple. No doubt, I was under a term. But I resigned my office here and became a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. After I came back, no question of term or tenure of office, has been raised or contemplated. The tenure is during His Highness the Maharaja's pleasure. So long as His Highness has confidence in me and so long as he wants me, I shall stay here.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തോടു അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. വർവണ്ണത്തിൽ വർണ്ണവരേയും അവാന്തരവിഭാഗങ്ങളെയും ഉൾക്കൊള്ളിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സാമുദായിക നിയമവും, ഇതു നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്നതായാൽ വർണ്ണവസമുദായത്തിന്റെ ഭായക്രമത്തേയും പിൻതുടർച്ചാവകാശത്തേയും ശരിയായി നിയന്ത്രിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതു ആണ്. നിയമങ്ങൾക്കു വിധേയരല്ലാത്ത സമുദായങ്ങളുടെ പുരോഗമനം ആശാർഹമല്ല. ഇവിടത്തെ മേജർസമുദായങ്ങളെല്ലാം ആവരവരുടെ ഭായക്രമവും പിൻതുടർച്ചാവകാശവും നിയന്ത്രിച്ചു മുൻപോട്ടു പോക